

Occupations & Hobbies May Expose You to Lead

Work and Hobbies can cause lead exposure for adults and children. People working in occupations and hobbies that involve lead should take precautions so they do not become lead poisoned.

Occupations that may involve lead exposure include:

- Painters • Smelters • Mechanics
- Lead Refiners • Auto Body Workers
- Plumbers • Construction Workers
- Bridge Workers • Renovators • Remodelers
- Aircraft and Ship Manufacturing Workers
- Battery Manufacturing/Recycling Workers

Hobbies that may involve lead exposure include:

- Artistic Painting • Ceramics/Pottery Making
- Jewelry Making • Indoor Firing Ranges
- Stained Glass Making • Home Renovations
- Making Homemade Products (*fishing sinkers, ammunition*)

Children can be exposed to lead and can become lead poisoned when you bring dust contaminated with lead home on your clothing, bring scrap and waste materials home, and participate in hobbies that involve using lead at home.

The following precautions can be taken to help prevent adults and children from becoming lead poisoned from their occupations or hobbies:

- Don't eat, drink or smoke in your work/hobby area.
- Wash your hands and face before eating, smoking or drinking.
- Wear protective clothing (such as disposable gloves, hat, shoe covers, and protective clothes) whenever you work with lead. Use a NIOSH-approved respirator.
- Shower, wash your hair, and change into clean clothes, including shoes, before leaving the work area. Leaving dust on your clothes can contaminate your home and car.
- Put your work clothes and shoes in sealed plastic bags.
- Wash contaminated work clothes separately from the family's laundry. Use high phosphate detergent.

Children and pregnant women should not work with lead or be in an area where they may be exposed to lead.

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